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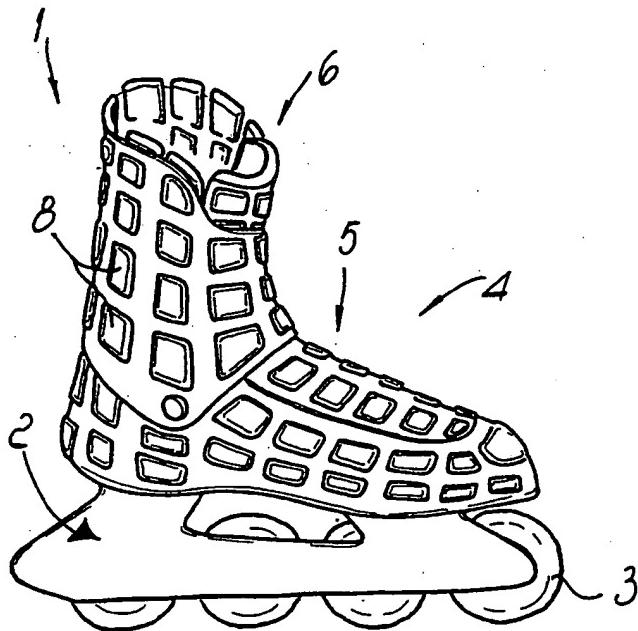
PCT

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 5 : A43B 5/04, 5/00, 5/16 A43B 19/00	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 94/06317 (43) International Publication Date: 31 March 1994 (31.03.94)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/EP93/02432		(81) Designated States: CA, JP, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).
(22) International Filing Date: 8 September 1993 (08.09.93)		
(30) Priority data: TV92A000104 23 September 1992 (23.09.92) IT		Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i>
(71) Applicant (<i>for all designated States except US</i>): NORDICA S.p.A. [IT/IT]; Via Piave, 33, I-31044 Montebelluna (IT).		
(72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (<i>for US only</i>): POZZOBON, Alessandro [IT/IT]; Via Ruga, 15, I-31050 Paderno di Ponzano Veneto (IT).		
(74) Agent: MODIANO, Guido; Modiano, Josif, Pisanty & Staub, Via Meravigli, 16, I-20123 Milan (IT).		

(54) Title: SPORTS SHOE, PARTICULARLY FOR SKATES



(57) Abstract

A ventilated sports shoe, particularly usable for skates which are constituted by a frame (2) for supporting two or more wheels (3) and the shoe (4). The shoe (4) has a plurality of through seats (7) and a plurality of soft pads (8) can be arranged within the seats and protrude inside the shoe, so as to constituted a soft protective region for the user's foot and leg as well as a channel for the air inside the shoe.

SPORTS SHOE, PARTICULARLY FOR SKATES**Technical Field**

The present invention relates to a sports shoe, particularly for skates.

Background Art

Conventional skates, for example of the type with two or more aligned wheels, are essentially constituted by a shoe associated with a wheel supporting frame.

The shoe, or boot, is generally constituted by a quarter articulated to a shell and is usually made of plastics.

An innerboot can be arranged inside the shell and the quarter, and constitutes a padding element to improve the user's comfort.

These conventional skates have the drawback that they do not allow a transpiration, because the foot is enclosed within a substantially tight container, so as to cause considerable sweating during the use of the skate.

This drawback is strongly felt by the users, since this sport is predominantly practiced in summer.

As a partial solution to this drawback, a skate with aligned wheels is commercially known and comprises a plurality of internal ventilation openings.

However, in this type of skate it is necessary to use an innerboot made of transpiring fabric in order to allow adequate ventilation.

Even this solution has drawbacks, since in any case the air does not optimally flow inside the sports shoe, thus limiting beneficial effects for the user.

Furthermore, the openings have fixed arrangements and

a plurality of through seats for engaging a plurality of pads which protrude at least inside said shoe.

Brief description of the drawings

Further characteristics and advantages of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description of a particular but not exclusive embodiment thereof, illustrated only by way of non-limitative example in the accompanying drawings, wherein:

figure 1 is a side view of the sports shoe according to the present invention;

10 figure 2 is a lateral perspective view of the quarter of the shoe;

figure 3 is a detail view of the internal lateral surface of the shoe;

15 figures 4 and 5 are cross section views of the shoe, illustrating the shape of the through seats of the pads associable therewith, according to two different embodiments of the invention;

figure 6 is a side view of a shoe according to a further aspect of the invention.

Ways of carrying out the invention

20 With reference to the above figures, the reference numeral 1 designates a skate which comprises a frame 2 for supporting two or more mutually aligned wheels 3 and a shoe, or boot, 4.

The shoe is constituted by a quarter 6 articulated to 25 a shell 5.

A plurality of through seats 7 is formed both at the quarter 6 and at the shell 5.

One or more pads, designated by the reference numeral

Furthermore, the air flow inside the shoe can be throttled by using pads 8 having holes 10 so as to create regions having a different amount of air inflow.

Furthermore, since the pads 8 protrude inside the internal lateral surface 9 of the quarter 6 and of the shell 5, on one hand they form the padding for the item of footgear, thus no longer requiring the use of an adapted innerboot, and on the other hand they define a channel 15 which allows the optimum outflow or inflow of air while maintaining optimum comfort for the user.

Figure 6 illustrate a sports shoe 104, according to a further aspect of the invention, comprising a quarter 106 articulated to a shell 105.

The shoe 104 comprises a plurality of through seats 107 adapted to engage a plurality of pads 108, substantially as described above.

In this case however, the number of seats 107 is reduced with respect to the number of seats 7 of the above described shoe 4.

The number of internal pads 108 is even lesser and each pad 108 engages more than one seat 107, as clearly illustrated in figure 6. This embodiment has the advantage of reducing the time for assembling the pads both at the production stage and for the user.

It has thus been observed that the invention has achieved the intended aim and objects, a sports shoe having been provided in which it is possible to obtain an optimum internal ventilation, and this is provided in a manner which is customized according to the specific requirements of the user or according to the sport practiced or to

weather conditions.

It is also possible to select regions of higher or lower air inflow or outflow and, by means of the channels 15 and, optionally, of the holes 10 formed on the pads 8, 5 to facilitate the air flow where it is mostly required.

All this allows optimum foot transpiration, thus improving user comfort.

Furthermore, the structure allows to eliminate the innerboot, thus reducing the manufacturing and assembly 10 costs of the sports shoe.

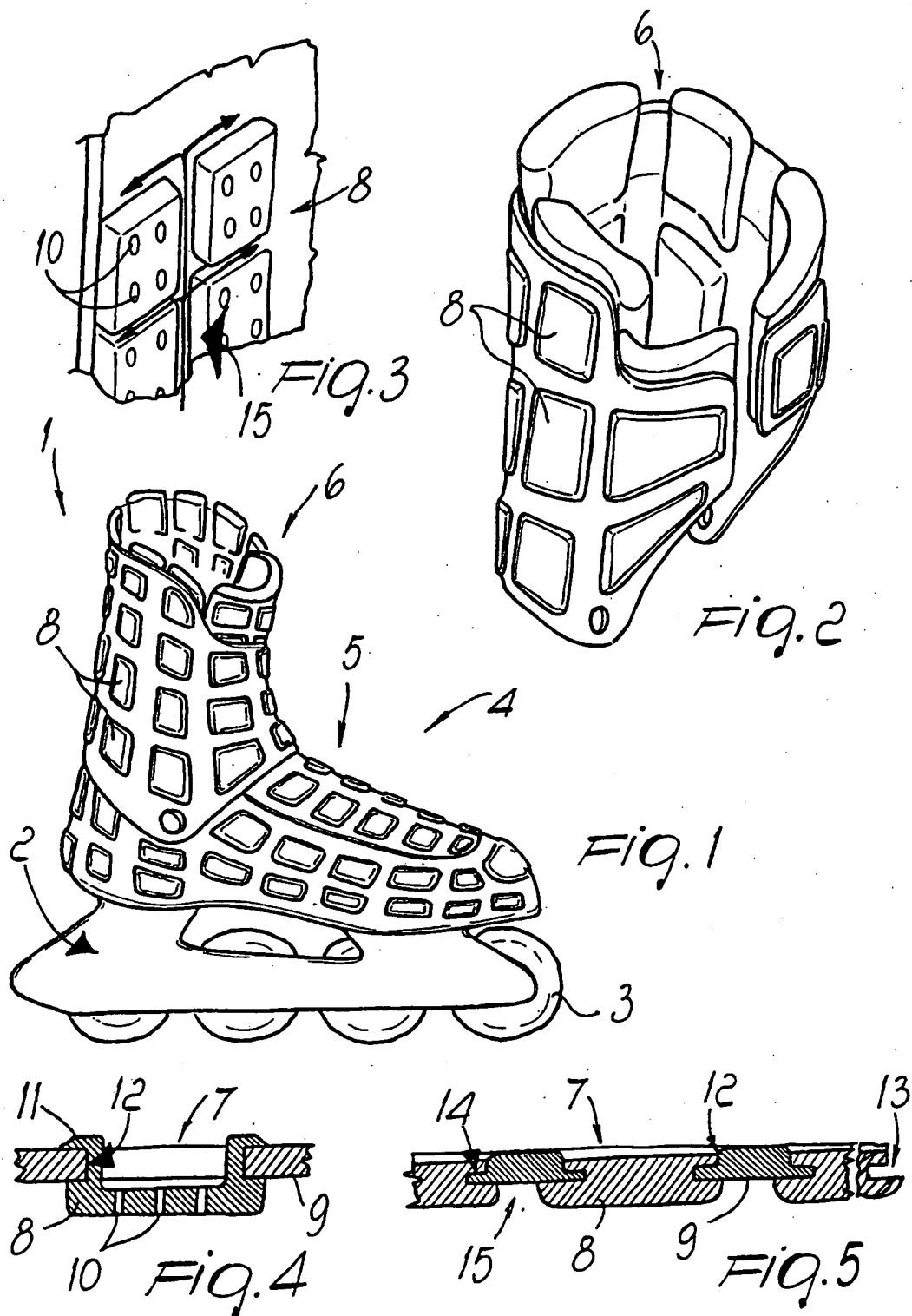
The sports shoe according to the invention is naturally susceptible to numerous modifications and variations, all of which are within the scope of the same inventive concept.

15 The dimensions and the materials which constitute the individual components of the shoe may also be the most pertinent according to the specific requirements.

Where technical features mentioned in any claim are followed by reference signs, those reference signs have 20 been included for the sole purpose of increasing the intelligibility of the claims and accordingly, such reference signs do not have any limiting effect on the scope of each element identified by way of example by such reference signs.

CLAIMS

- 1 1. Sports shoe particularly for skates, characterized in that it comprises a plurality of through seats (7,107) for engaging a plurality of pads (8,108) which protrude at least inside said shoe.
- 1 2. Sports shoe according to claim 1, characterized in that said pads are detachably associated with said seats.
- 1 3. Sports shoe according to claim 1, characterized in that said pads are associated at said seats by molding.
- 1 4. Sports shoe according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that holes (10) are formed in said pads.
- 1 5. Sports shoe according to claim 2, characterized in that said pads have elastically deformable wings (11) adapted to engage the edges (12) of said seats in a snap-together manner.
- 1 6. Sports shoe according to claim 2, characterized in that said pads are perimetricaly provided with an annular groove (13) adapted to engage tabs (14) protruding from the edges of said seats.
- 1 7. Sports shoe according to one or more of the preceding claims, characterized in that a channel (13) for air circulation inside said shoe is formed between adjacent pads (8).
- 1 8. Sports shoe, according to claim 1, characterized in that each of said pads (108) engages more than one of said seats (107).



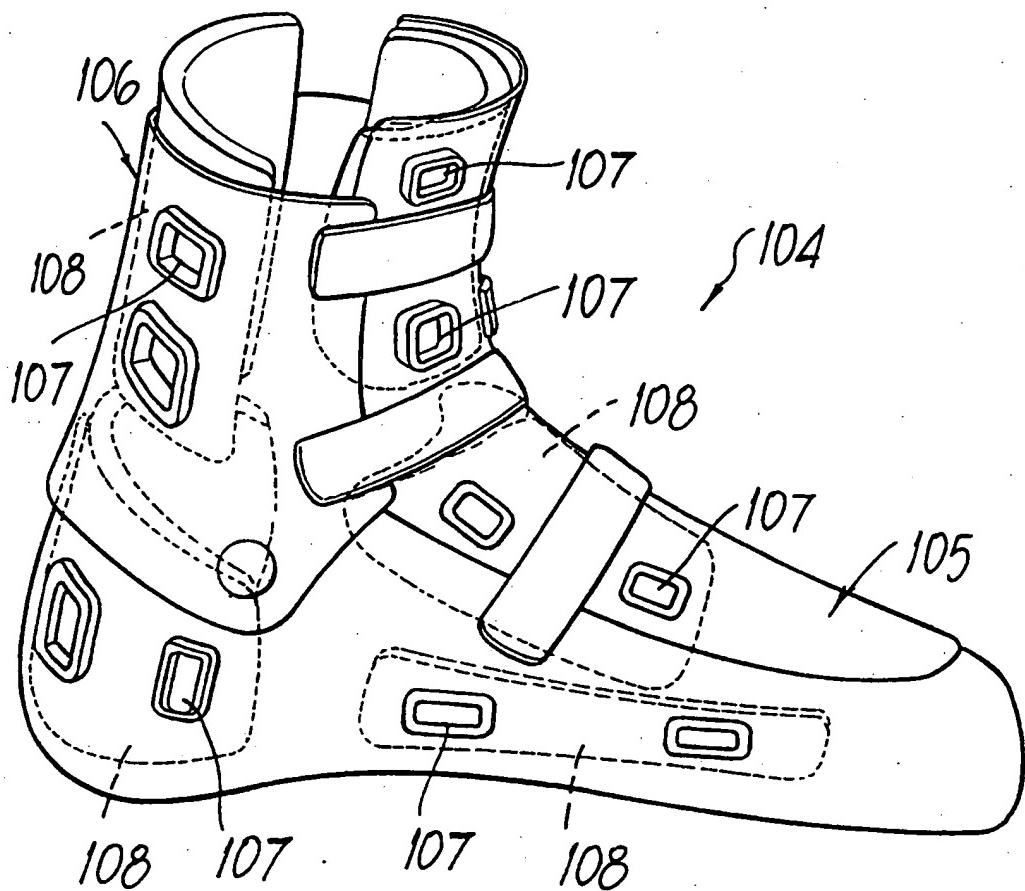


FIG. 6

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP 93/02432

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 5 A43B5/04 A43B5/00 A43B5/16 A43B19/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 5 A43B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US,A,4 724 627 (H. SISCO) 16 February 1988 see the whole document -----	1
A	CH,A,626 793 (RAICHLE) 15 December 1981 see the whole document -----	1

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

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- 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- 'P' document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- 'T' later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- 'X' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- 'Y' document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- '&' document member of the same patent family

1 Date of the actual completion of the international search 12 January 1994	Date of mailing of the international search report 14. 02. 94
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentstaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer DECLERCK, J

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/EP 93/02432

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US-A-4724627	16-02-88	EP-A-	0358639	21-03-90
		WO-A-	8906916	10-08-89
CH-A-626793	15-12-81	NONE		